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THE REORGANIZATION OF THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

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Behind the scenes of the Washingtongovernment departments, disputes on the reorganization of the ramified system of U.S. intelligence organs and particularly of the system of their leadership, have been proceeding for almost a whole year. As far back as May 1971, according to The New York Times, a plan for such reorganization was prepared by assistants of the National Security Council and the Administrative and Budget Office and placed on the President's table.[1] However, the taking of a decision on the plan was severely delayed and only on 5 November was a White House statement on the reconstruction of the management of the intelligence services made public. This makes one suppose that the Administration's attempts to introduce changes to the work of the cumbersome U.S. intelligence service, unaccustomed to control, ran into certain difficulties.

The U.S. intelligence service has always laid claim to extensive rights and "global" powers. The working doctrine of the U.S. intelligence service, formulated by one of its founders, Allen Dulles, sets as its aim penetration into the affairs of various states of the world and into those spheres where the hand of the diplomatic service or any other departments does not reach. "Today," Dulles wrote in the book The Craft of Intelligence, which has acquired the nature of a political behest, "the intelligence service must stand permanent watch over all parts of the world, irrespective of what the minds of diplomats and soldiers are engaged in at a given moment, our vital interests could be struck at any moment in almost any part of the world."[2] Expenditures on technical and agent espionage and on the holding of secret subversive operations and "paramilitary" actions in various countries have steadily increased. According to by no means complete data from the U.S. press, they recently reached 5-6 billion dollars a year.[3] The numbers of U.S. intelligence service employees, not counting the broad body of agents within the United States and abroad, has exceeded 200,000 people.[4] About ten federal departments and agencies have acquired their own intelligence subdivisions and several other agencies have turned out to be engaged in intelligence operations kept secret from the public. According to informed U.S. researchers, the State Department and the U.S. Information Agency in particular take part in such operations. The latter, for instance, has its own secret subdivision engaged in sending air balloons with leaflets of subversive content into the socialist countries.[5]

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